

BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF
SOUTH CAROLINA
DOCKET NO. 2008-190-S

IN RE:

Application of Alpine Utilities, Inc.
for adjustment of rates and charges
for the provision of sewer service and
establishment of additional rates and
charges.

**EXPLANATORY BRIEF AND JOINT
MOTION FOR SETTLEMENT
HEARING AND ADOPTION OF
SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT**

The South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff (“ORS”), James C. Cook and Carolyn Cook, General Partners of Happy Rabbit, L.P., Owners and Operators of Windridge Townhomes (“Intervenors”) and Alpine Utilities, Inc. (“Alpine” or “the Company”) (collectively “the Parties”) pursuant to 26 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 103-840, the Settlement Policies and Procedures established by the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (“the Commission”), revised June 13, 2006, and other applicable statutes, rules and regulations, hereby file this Explanatory Brief and Joint Motion to establish a settlement hearing in the above-captioned proceeding and for approval of the settlement agreement filed herewith. In support of this Joint Motion, the Parties state as follows:

1. On or about May 7, 2008, Alpine filed an Application seeking an adjustment of its rates and charges and establishment of additional rates and charges for the provision of its sewer service.
2. ORS is a party of record in this proceeding pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 58-4-10(B).

3. By way of its Order No. 2008-572, dated August 19, 2008, the Commission granted James C. Cook and Carolyn Cook, General Partners of Happy Rabbit, L.P., Owners and Operators of Windridge Townhomes, status as intervenors in this proceeding.

4. ORS, the Intervenors and Alpine are the only parties of record to this proceeding.

5. Following ORS's financial and business compliance review of Alpine and extensive discussions concerning the issues in the above-captioned proceeding, Alpine and the Intervenors have determined that their respective interests, and ORS has determined that the public interest, would best be served by stipulating to a comprehensive settlement of all issues pending in the above-captioned proceeding. The agreement detailing the terms and conditions of the settlement is provided herewith as Attachment "A". The proposed witnesses to be presented to support the settlement are Robin Dial, Donald H. Burkett, Willie J. Morgan, and Christina L. Seale. The basis and rationale for the settlement is set forth in the proposed settlement testimonies of these witnesses copies of which are attached as Exhibit "C" to Attachment "A." If the Parties' settlement agreement is approved, the Company would receive an increase in annual revenues of \$329,224. The proposed resulting rate schedule is reflected in Exhibit "B" to Attachment "A".

6. Currently, the hearing in this matter is scheduled for September 25, 2008. In order to present the merits of the settlement agreement to the Commission, the Parties jointly move the Commission commence a settlement hearing on September 25, 2008.

7. The Parties submit that the settlement agreement produces rates that are just and reasonable and move its approval as being in the public interest.

WHEREFORE, having fully set forth their Explanatory Brief and Joint Motion, the Parties request that the Commission 1) permit the Parties to present the merits of the settlement agreement on September 25, 2008, and 2) issue an order approving the Parties' settlement agreement as just, fair and reasonable.

WE SO MOVE:

Representing the South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff



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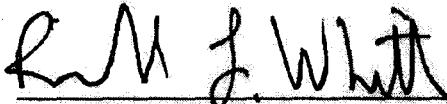
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WE SO MOVE:

**Representing James C. Cook and Carolyn Cook,
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Columbia, South Carolina
This 17 day of Sept. 2008

ORIGINAL